

Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 EA-07 NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5460

CONFIDENTIAL PARIS 28433

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR FR XB US

SUBJECT: ANNUAL FRANCO/AMERICAN CONSULTATIONS ON
EAST ASIA

REF: PARIS 6805

1. QUAI DIRECTOR OF ASIA, NOIVILLE, TOLD EMBOFF SEPTEMBER 28 THAT HE NOW HAS A TRIP SCHEDULED FOR THE END OF OCTOBER AND BEGINNING OF NOVEMBER. IN VIEW OF THE U.S. ELECTIONS IN EARLY NOVEMBER, HE THOUGHT THAT A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME MIGHT BE THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15 TO 20. HE PROPOSED TWO DAYS OF TALKS, WITH THE AFTERNOON OF THE SECOND DAY DEVOTED TO A DISCUSSION OF SOUTH ASIA WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON. (NOIVILLE'S AREA INCLUDES AFGHANISTAN, INDIA, PAKISTAN, BANGLADESH AND SRI LANKA IN ADDITION TO THOSE COUNTRIES COVERED BY THE EA BUREAU.) NOIVILLE WOULD ALSO HOPE TO CALL ON UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS HABIB, WITH WHOM HE HELD LAST YEAR'S CONSULTATIONS.

2. NOIVILLE PROPOSED FURTHER CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF LATER IN OCTOBER TO DISCUSS THE AGENDA. HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE NO TROUBLE IN AGREEING, SINCE U.S. AND FRANCE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THE SAME SUBJECTS. HE FELT THE PRINCIPAL SUBJECT WOULD PROBABLY BE CHINA, BUT HE WOULD LIKE U.S. VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT SINCE HIS CONFIDENTIAL

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CHOICE OF THE PERSON TO ACCOMPANY HIM WOULD DEPEND

ON THE SUBJECT IN WHICH THE U.S. HAS MOST INTEREST.
NOIVILLE HAD FOUND LAST YEAR'S PRACTICE OF HAVING
EACH SIDE SPEAK ITS OWN LANGUAGE HAD WORKED VERY WELL;
HE HOPED IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE CONSULTATIONS TO
BE HANDLED THE SAME WAY THIS YEAR.

3. NOIVILLE DID NOT ASK ABOUT U.S. INTENTIONS CONCERNING ENTERTAINMENT NOR DID HE INDICATE THAT THE FRENCH SIDE MIGHT WISH TO HOST A LUNCHEON. IN PAST YEARS, AT LEAST THE HOST COUNTRY HAS GIVEN A LUNCHEON DURING THE FIRST DAY OF CONSULTATIONS. OCCASIONALLY THE EMBASSY OF THE GUESTS GAVE A RETURN LUNCHEON OR RECEPTION.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WE SUGGEST THAT WHEN DEPARTMENT RESPONDS TO NOIVILLE'S SUGGESTIONS IN PARAS 1 AND 2, IT ALSO INDICATE WHETHER IT WILL HOST A LUNCHEON.

RUSH

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NNN

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